



A reunion of those recovering from substance abuse

Substance dependence is a chronic and relapsing disorder. Substance dependence leads to repeated Substance use and, despite its harmful consequences, continued Substance use causes lasting changes in the brain that create physical and mental imbalances. However, the diseases caused by Substance use are preventable and treatable said the speakers in the Recovery Get-Together program organized by Ahsania Mission Drug Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Center, Gazipur on March 26, 2022.

During the day, more than four hundred recoveries, their family members and staff of various projects of Dhaka Ahsania Mission took part in this Get Together. The main purpose of this program is to encourage people who are living a healthy and normal life by overcoming social barriers and medical barriers.

The day-long program included opening ceremonies, recovery run, recovery sharing, family sharing, sports, cultural evenings, raffle draws, recovery count-downs and gifts distribution. All registered participants were given anti-drug souvenir, mugs, T-shirts, masks and hand sanitizers as gifts.

Mr. Iqbal Masud, Director, Health and WASH Sector, Dhaka Ahsania Mission said that post-treatment recovery is a step and a process of change. Ignoring the negative social aspects of being drug free and living a productive life is an important part of recovery. Dhaka Ahsania Mission's Drug Addiction Treatment Centers encourage the process of staying healthy from substances. He especially thanked the participants and sponsors for their cooperation in this program.

Covid-19 mass vaccination program 1st dose and 2nd dose



Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project DSCC Partnership Area-03, Hazaribagh and DNCC Partnership Area-03, Mirpur working area are conducting Covid-19 mass vaccination program 1st dose and 2nd dose from 8th February, 2021 by Dhaka Ahsania Mission. As part of the COVID-19 vaccination program of the Government of Bangladesh, a total of three lakh ninety five thousand eight hundred and seven people have so far been given 1st, 2nd and booster dose vaccines through the two centers, of these, one hundred and fifty six thousand four hundred and thirty six people were vaccinated with Synopharm, one hundred and two thousand seven hundred and eighteen with Moderna and one hundred and thirty six thousand six hundred and fifty three with Astrazeneca vaccine.

Besides, the 1st and 2nd doses were given to a total of one hundred and twenty seven thousand two hundred and twenty two people through the mass vaccination program. Meanwhile, the public announcement of Covid-19 was held on February 26-27, 2022 at 5 urban health centers of Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project-Phase II run by Dhaka Ahsania Mission and implemented by Rajshahi City Corporation.

Activities are held at Urban Health Center-1 located in Ward 1, Urban Health Center-2 located in Ward 2, Project Management Office located in Ward 12, Urban Health Center-3 located in Ward 13, Urban Health Center-4 located in Ward 15 and Urban Health Center-5 located in Ward 18. In addition, the Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project-II, run by Dhaka Ahsania Mission in Ward 4, Ward 6 and Ward 11, are working as partners of Rajshahi City Corporation in the vaccination program. A total of 2038 people were vaccinated with 1st dose during the vaccination program. Also, as part of the mass vaccination program, the second dose of Covid-19 was given on March 26-29, 2022. A total of 2,210 people were vaccinated with the Covid-19 2nd dose during the vaccination program.

From 31.03.2022 Rajshahi City Corporation had declared 3 Urban Health Centers (Urban Health Centers-3, 4 and 5) Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project Phase-II, RCC, PA-1, of Dhaka Ahsania Mission as Permanent Covid-19 vaccination center. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd (booster) doses of Covid-19 are being administered at the mentioned urban health centers from the date.

In addition, the Mayer Hashi Health Care Center, run by the Health Sector of Dhaka Ahsania Mission, conducted the program for the 1st Dose on 26 February 2022 and the 2nd Dose on 26 March 2022. A total of 320 people took the first dose and 222 people took the second dose. Counselors and women counselors in 55 wards also provided overall support for the smooth running of the program.

Youth skaters demand safer roads

A group of skaters skated in Shahbagh, Dhaka University area through the book fair demanding safe roads. The skating show was organized in collaboration with Gebal Road Safety Partnership



and organized by Dhaka Ahsania Mission Health Sector. The skaters in the campaign made various demands including controlling the speed of vehicles on the road, ensuring the use of quality helmets, introducing child seats in cars and ensuring use of car seat belts for all. Members of Jamir Rapid and Magnolia Skating Club took part in the campaign. It is worth mentioning that according to the World Health Organization, about 25,000 people die on the roads of Bangladesh every year.

Family Meeting on Family Role in Treating Drug Addicts/substance users



On 20 March 2022, a family meeting was organized with the participation of 40 members of 21 families undergoing treatment at Ahsania Mission Drug Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Center Jessore. The meeting discussed in detail what drugs/substances are, symptoms, current drug/substance addiction, misconceptions about drug/substance addiction, and co-causing diseases.

In the open discussion session, the parents asked various questions related to the treatment of mass drug/substance addiction, the ongoing services of the center. Earlier, on February 18, a virtual family meeting was organized by Ahsania Hena Ahmed Monojatna Kendra. Twelve members of 6 families were virtually connected to the family meeting through Zoom. Meetings were organized on the importance of counseling in stress management as part of family psychosocial education for family members as a continuous and important component of treatment of patients undergoing treatment and post-treatment at the psychiatric center.

The family is the first school in drug/substance control



“Family is the first school in drug control. If the family takes care of its members, the rate of drug addiction will come down,”said the speakers at a press conference organized by the Ahsania Mission Women Drug Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Center on March 8 as part of the International Women's Day 2022 celebrations. The press conference, organized under the theme 'Empowering Women in Recovery', revealed the data of women receiving treatment at Ahsania Mission Women's Drug Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Center for the last one year. 20 women journalists of Bangladesh Women Journalists Association participated in the meeting.

Unveiling of the book 'Tamak Carun, Shushtho Thakun (Quit Tobacco, Stay Healthy)'

The unveiling of the book 'Quit Tobacco, Stay Healthy' by Iqbal Masud, Director, Health and Wash Sector, Dhaka Ahsania Mission took place on March 3 in the conference room of the Ministry of Health of the National Secretariat. The pack of the book was unveiled by Lokman Hossain Mia, Senior Secretary, Department of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Kazi Jebunnesa Begum, Additional Secretary (World Health), DHS, MoHFW, Nilufar Nazneen, Joint Secretary (World Health Branch), Dr. Syed Mahfuzul Haque, National Professional Officer, WHO, Prof. Dr. Arup Ratan Choudhury, Founder President of Drug and Narcotics Control Organization (MANAS), , Shafiqul Islam,



Head of Programs of Vital Strategies – Bangladesh, and Iqbal Masud, Director, Health and Wash Sector, Dhaka Ahsania Mission.

Speaking as the chief guest at the unveiling ceremony, Lokman Hossain Mia, Senior Secretary, Department of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, said that the epidemic of non-communicable diseases is related to human behavior and lifestyle. The prevalence of non-communicable and other chronic diseases including cancer is increasing as a public health problem in Bangladesh.

Non-communicable diseases are largely related to tobacco use, which can be prevented at an early stage in an acceptable way. He thanked the author for writing the book, “Quit Tobacco, Stay Healthy”. Additional Secretary (World Health) Kazi Jebunnesa Begum said that in this book based on contemporary information, a reader can easily find out about many unknown things about himself. In particular, the book 'Quit Tobacco, Stay Healthy' can be a great tool to keep one free from tobacco. Because I believe that if everyone works to control tobacco from their place, I believe our country will soon be tobacco free.

Necessary steps will be taken to ensure 100% smoke free environment in hospitality sector: Tourism Chairman

'Necessary steps will be taken to ensure a 100% smoke-free environment in the hospitality sector. To this end, we have agreed to make all hotels, restaurants and establishments affiliated to Bangladesh Tourism Corporation smoke-free,' said Bangladesh Tourism Corporation Chairman Md. Ali Kadar. He was the chief guest at a seminar on 'Role of Bangladesh Tourism Corporation in building 100% smoke-free hospitality sector' jointly organized by Dhaka Ahsania Mission and Bangladesh Tourism Corporation.

The meeting was chaired by the Director (Joint Secretary) of Bangladesh Tourism Corporation in collaboration with the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids (CTFK).



Planning Workshop on Rehabilitation of Prisoners

A workshop on “Sentence Planning for Rehabilitation of Prisoners” was held on 14-15 March 2022 at Hotel Royal Tulip, Cox's Bazar, organized by Bangladesh Department of Prisons and GIZ. Iqbal Masud, Director, Health and Wash Sector, Dhaka Ahsania Mission, gave a presentation in the workshop of the project which was implemented by Dhaka Ahsania Mission.



The three books written by him that were handed over at the workshop were “Quit Tobacco - Stay Healthy”, "Drug Dependence Known and Unknown" and the book "HIV / AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Diseases. The books were handed over to Brigadier General ASM Anisul Haque, Inspector General of Prisons, Department of Prisons, Md. Khairul Alam Sheikh, Additional Secretary (Development Division), Department of Security Services, Ministry of Home Affairs, Muhammad Shahidullah, Deputy Secretary (Planning-2 Branch), Department of Security Services, Ministry of Home Affairs, AKM Fazlul Haque, DIG, Chittagong Division and Tahera Yasmin, Director Operations, Rule-of-Law Program, GIZ Bangladesh.

Day celebrations

Celebrating International Mother Language Day



Respecting the language martyrs, the day is being celebrated every year in different working areas of Dhaka Ahsania Mission, Health Sector. In its continuation, Ahsania Mission Drug Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Center, Gazipur and Jashore celebrated by National Flag Hoisting, National Anthem Performance, Dayalika, different Sports Competition. The day was also celebrated with the participation of in-house clients and staff of the center through their life philosophy, discussion meetings, dramas on the history and movement of language martyrs, country songs, poems and pleasant cultural programs.

Celebrating International Women's Day

On the occasion of International Women's Day on March 8, Ahsania Mission Women's Drug Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Center organized various programs under the slogan 'Gender equality is paramount today for sustainable future'. The day was also celebrated in other working areas of the health sector including Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project-Phase II, PA-3 Dhaka North City Corporation. To celebrate the day, Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project-Phase II, PA-3 Dhaka South City Corporation



provided free healthcare to a total of 72 working women of Babul Plastic & Rubber Industries.

Celebrating Independence Day

On the occasion of Independence Day-2022, Ahsania Mission Drug Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Center, Jessore organized a colorful day-long festival. In-house clients, recovery from the center and the staff of the center performed the national anthem, hoisted the flag, observed one minute silence in honor of the martyrs.

Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project-Phase II, PA-01 Cumilla On the occasion of Independence Day, all health services including delivery services were provided free of cost at each city health center and city maternity centers.

In addition, free medical services were provided to a total of 182 people including ANC services, pathological services, child health services, family planning services, treatment of common diseases.



In addition, normal delivery of 6 persons and ultrasonography services of 4 persons were provided free of cost.

On the occasion of Independence Day-2022, free health care was provided in all PHCCs including Nagar Matrisadan. On this day, general health services were provided free of cost to a total of 60 people including 1 general delivery in the city maternity hospital.

Under the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives, Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project Implemented in Rajshahi City Corporation, Phase-II, 5 Health Centers in 10 wards of the City Corporation provided free healthcare on the occasion of Independence Day on 26th March. Medicine, pathology and ultrasonogram services were provided to a total of 48 patients.

Camp

Provide free health care

On 21st February, a free medical camp was held on the occasion of International Mother Language Day at the hospital premises organized by Monasef Ahsania Health Center, run by Dhaka Ahsania Mission, Health Sector. The service was provided to a total of 36 patients. The free medical camp was conducted by forming a team of 5 members.

In addition, on the occasion of the centenary of the birth of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, ANC services, pathological services, child health services, family planning services, general disease health services were provided free of cost in PA-1 Cumilla work area.



A total of 18 people were provided free medical services including 2 normal deliveries and 1 caesarean delivery. Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project-Phase II, PA-03 Dhaka North City Corporation, a discussion meeting was organized on the occasion of Bangabandhu's birth centenary. Free health care, blood donation and blood grading camps were conducted for 7 days.

A free medical camp was organized on 20th February 2022 at Mayer Hashi Health Care Center. There are small factories in Kamrangirchar, Jhauchar area. In order to provide health care to the workers of these factories, camps were organized to provide free health care.

Free Diabetes Camp



A free diabetes camp was organized on 12 February 2022

at Mayer Hashi Health Care Center. People from Kamrangirchar, Jhauchar and its environs came to the camp to receive services. Diabetes Camp is organized every month at the Center.

Blood Group Diagnosis Camp

Mayer hashi Healthcare Center organizes camps to determine the blood group of students in different schools in the working area. Following this, Haji Abdul Awal School and Noor Jannat Mahila Madrasa organized two camps in January and March.

Blood donation program

A Blood donation program at Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project-Phase II, run by Dhaka Ahsania Mission, under the auspices of COCC, PA-1 was organized.

Eye Camp



An eye camp was organized on 29th March 2022 at Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project- Phase II , COCC, PA-1, Nagar Health Center-5, Dhulipara, Cumilla, organized by Dhaka Ahsania Mission. The Eye Camp provides low cost primary eye care to all the people of the city including the poor and the marginalized. Under the service, a total of 30 service recipients were provided primary eye care.

Activities of WASH Sector

Project Planning Workshop

Awareness and planning workshop of “Sustainable Urban Provision of Clean Water, Benapole” project under implementation of Dhaka Ahsania Mission Wash Sector was organized on 31st March 2022. An action plan was formulated in the light of project activities till December 2022 through lively and participatory discussions.



Hygiene promotion session

Hygiene promotion session was held in Benapole as part of the regular activities of the project. The session was organized by Dhaka Ahsania Mission in collaboration with Benapole Municipality.



Water safety session

An awareness session on "Water Safety" was organized on March 21 as part of regular project activities.



The awareness session was organized by Benapole Wash Project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission. Various topics related to safe water, water collection, safe water sources, conservation and safe drinking water were discussed in this session.

Construction and renovation of Rohingya camp sanitary latrines



5 projects of Dhaka Ahsania Mission are being implemented for the supply of pure water. Between October and December, 5 new arsenic and iron removal plants have been set up in Benapole Municipality. The work of setting up 16 cluster mini piped water supply schemes in different upazillas of Patuakhali district has been completed. Under the Nalta Pipe Water Supply Scheme, water is being supplied through pipelines to 654 houses.

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